

**WATER WELL DRILLING MACHINERY—REGISTRATION AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSPORTATION****CHAPTER 324**

S. B. No. 291

An Act to clarify the status of machinery used exclusively for drilling water wells with respect to registration and permit requirements for transportation over the public highways, by amending Section 2 of Chapter 88, General Laws of the 41st Legislature, Second Called Session, 1929, as amended (codified as Article 6675a—2 in Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), and by amending subdivision (a) of Section 3, Chapter 42, General Laws of the 41st Legislature, Second Called Session, 1929, as amended (codified as Article 827a, Section 3 in Vernon's Texas Penal Code); repealing conflicting laws; and declaring an emergency.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

Section 1. Section 2 of Chapter 88, General Laws of the 41st Legislature, Second Called Session, 1929,<sup>17</sup> as amended (codified as Article 6675a—2 in Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"Section 2**

"Every owner of a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer used or to be used upon the public highways of this State shall apply each year to the State Highway Department through the County Tax Collector of the county in which he resides for the registration of each such vehicle owned or controlled by him for the ensuing or current calendar year or unexpired portion thereof; provided that where a public highway separates lands under the dominion or control of the owner, the operation of a motor vehicle by such owner, his agents or employees, across such highway shall not constitute a use of such motor vehicle upon a public highway of this State. Owners of farm tractors, farm trailers, farm semi-trailers, implements of husbandry, and machinery used solely for the purpose of drilling water wells regardless of whether it is a unit in itself or is a unit mounted on a conventional vehicle or chassis, operated or moved temporarily upon the highways shall not be required to register such farm tractors, farm trailers, farm semi-trailers, implements of husbandry, and well-drilling machinery; provided, however, that such farm trailers and farm semi-trailers are operated in conformity with all provisions of the law save and except the requirements as to registration and license; and providing further, that the exemptions in this section shall not apply to any farm trailer or farm semi-trailer when the gross weight exceeds twelve thousand (12,000) pounds; provided, that no farm trailer or farm semi-trailer with metal tires shall be permitted to operate at a speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour; and further provided, that the exemptions in this section shall not apply to any farm trailer or farm semi-trailer with steel tires of a width less than three (3) inches operating in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour; and providing further, that the exemption in this section shall not apply to any farm trailer or farm semi-trailer when the same is used for hire; provided, however, it shall be unlawful to operate any trailer or semi-trailer at night without a rear red light or red reflectors."

Sec. 2. Subdivision (a) of Section 3, Chapter 42, General Laws of the 41st Legislature, Second Called Session, 1929, as amended (codified

17. Vernon's Ann.Civ.St. art. 6675a—2.

as Article 827a, Section 3 in Vernon's Texas Penal Code)<sup>18</sup> is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) No vehicle shall exceed a total outside width, including any load thereon, of ninety-six (96) inches, except that the width of a farm tractor shall not exceed nine (9) feet, and except further, that the limitations as to size of vehicle stated in this section shall not apply to implements of husbandry, machinery used solely for the purpose of drilling water wells regardless of whether it is a unit in itself or is a unit mounted on a conventional vehicle or chassis, and highway building and maintenance machinery temporarily propelled or moved upon the public highways."

Sec. 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Sec. 4. The fact that the status of certain types of well-drilling machinery is obscure under present statutory provisions creates an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each House be suspended; and said Rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate, April 30, 1953: Yeas 30, Nays 0; May 20, 1953, Senate concurred in House amendment: Yeas 28, Nays 0; passed the House, May 14, 1953, with amendment: Yeas 125, Nays 7.

Approved June 8, 1953.

Effective June 8, 1953.

## HARRIS COUNTY—COURT OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS

### CHAPTER 325<sup>19</sup>

S. B. No. 335

An Act creating a Court of Domestic Relations for Harris County, Texas; fixing its jurisdiction; conforming the jurisdiction of other courts thereto; fixing its term; providing the manner of selection, tenure and compensation of the Judge and other officers of said Court; providing the manner of and grounds for removal of the Judge of said Court; providing for the membership of the Juvenile Board of Harris County; providing for appeals to higher courts; providing the procedure of said Court; providing for the services of certain county and district officers to said Court; containing a saving clause; and declaring an emergency.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

Section 1. There is hereby created a Court of Domestic Relations in and for Harris County, Texas.

Sec. 2. The Judge of the Court of Domestic Relations, hereby established, shall be an attorney licensed to practice law in this State. He shall be paid a salary which shall be equal to the total salary paid to District Judges of Harris County. His salary shall be paid out of the General Fund of Harris County in twelve equal monthly installments. He shall be a member of the Juvenile Board of Harris County, which shall hereafter be composed of the Judges of the several District Courts and Criminal District Courts of Harris County, the County Judge of Harris County, and the Judge of the Court of Domestic Relations for Harris County, which Juvenile Board shall be authorized to designate the Court of Domestic Relations as the Juvenile Court of Harris County. Judges of the District Courts and Criminal District Courts shall continue to re-

<sup>18</sup>. Vernon's Ann.P.C. art. 827a, § 3(a).

<sup>19</sup>. Vernon's Ann.Civ.St. art. 2338—5.